

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 7, and 13 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for optimizing a snow flake query comprising:
 - organizing a database stored on a computer readable medium with a fact table and multiple dimension tables into a snow flake query configuration;
 - reducing the snow flake configuration to a star configuration by combining a first generation child dimension table rooted at the fact table and all subsequent dimension tables rooted at said first generation child dimension table into a logical node
 - determining commitment of said logical node for push down to a fact table for execution of a query; **and**
 - pushing down said logical node to said fact table responsive to a positive commitment, wherein the step of pushing down said logical node to said fact table includes each dimension table rooted at said first generation child dimension table in said logical node; and
 - displaying query results to a user.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining commitment of said logical node for push down to said fact table includes committing an optimal number of logical nodes for push down to said fact table.
3. Canceled.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining commitment of said logical node for push down to said fact table includes calculating a cumulative selectivity for said logical node.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the step of calculating a cumulative selectivity for said logical node includes a representation of all selectivities from all dimension